

BANNA, Sabri**PALESTINE**

50/48/

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FRP: , , , , , ,

STATE

25X1

78 1550400

PAGE 001
TOR: 110557Z NOV 78

NC 1550400

RR RUEAIIB
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
TSTU688
RR RUEHC
DE RUEHCR #2330 3120850
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 080745Z NOV 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7062
INFO RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 1015
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 1537
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 1162
RUQMRA/AMEMBASSY JIDFA 1255
RUQMKW/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 1683
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 438
BT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BAGHDAD 2330

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, XF, IZ, PLO
SUBJECT: ARAFAT THREATENS ESCALATION OF FEDAYEEN ACTION AND HOLDS
TALKS WITH IRAQIS

REF: (A) FBIS AMMAN 060725Z NOV 78
(B) FBIS AMMAN 040952Z NOV 78

1. POST WISHES DRAW DEPT'S ATTENTION TO REF A, FBIS
TRANSLATION OF IRAQ NEWS AGENCY REPORT ON ARAFAT PRESS
CONFERENCE. THE PLO LEADER SAID, "IN LIGHT OF THE
RESOLUTIONS OF THE BAGHDAD SUMMIT, FEDAYEEN ACTION
WILL ESCALATE IN THE FUTURE AND THE WORLD WILL HEAR OF
THE SOPHISTICATED METHODS WHICH WILL BE USED."

2. WE ALSO NOTE (REF B) REPORT THAT ARAFAT AND
SADDAM HUSSEIN AGREED THAT THE TWO FACTIONS OF FATAH
WOULD SEEK RECONCILIATION OF THEIR DIFFERENCES. IT IS
BELIEVED HERE THAT IRAQ HAS TOLD ABU NIDAL TO ACCEPT
ARAFAT'S LEADERSHIP OF PLO IN RETURN FOR ARAFAT'S OFFER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

78 1550400

PAGE 002

NC 1550400

TOR: 110557Z NOV 78

TO LIFT DEATH SENTENCE IMPOSED ON ABU NIDAL. IN THIS
CONNECTION, IT MAY BE NOTEWORTHY THAT FINAL DECLARATION
OF BAGHDAD SUMMIT CALLED ON ALL ARAB STATES TO REFRAIN
FROM INTERFERING IN INTERNAL PALESTINIAN ACTIVITY.
IRAQ HAS BEEN A MAJOR OFFENDER IN THIS REGARD, AND
PANGUAGE SUGGESTS THAT ARAFAT MAY NOW ENJOY GREATER
AUTHORITY.
MACK

END OF MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL